

Self-Downloading Network Client

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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A computer server-client network initially places all client software on the servers except for a client-downloader utility that polls the network from otherwise empty and uninitialized client hardware. When a broadcast from the client-downloader utility is responded to by an appropriate server, the client software is downloaded to the client site. The client agent is initialized and normal server-client operations over the network commence. In alternative embodiments, the client-downloader utility continues to identify itself on the network and solicits automatic downloads of updated or upgraded client software from the server.